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*Holiday mail deadlines approaching. See more on page 6.*



# CROSSROADS

Vol. 10, No. 42 • October 21, 2005 | Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal | Ready to Fight and Win!



## Rain, rain

*Staff Sgt. Katrina Blanchard, 65th Operations Support Squadron and Portuguese Air Force Cabo Ajudante Tiago Silveira, both weather forecasters, measure precipitation (rain) from the official airfield rain gauge. (Photo by Guido Melo)*

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# COMMENTARY

## Commander's Line

Call 2-4240 or  
e-mail  
[actionline@lajes.af.mil](mailto:actionline@lajes.af.mil).



The Commander's Line is your direct link to me for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution.

Your chain of command should always be your first option for praise or problems -- but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the CC Line.

**Col. Robert Winston**  
65th Air Base Wing  
commander

## Unprofessional relationships discussed

**Question:** I have a question regarding unprofessional relationships.

I know it's a small island and everyone's very friendly, but sometimes it seems people are really a little too friendly, and I would like you to address some of those issues -- maybe with fraternization or unprofessional relationships between coworkers of the opposite sex.

What is the consequence; what action is taken if there is any? I know we're a small island and a close-knit community, but sometimes I see things that are inappropriate and I wish someone to address that. Thank you.

**Answer:** Thank you for calling with your concern of unprofessional relationships here at Lajes.

As military members, we need to be aware of our surroundings and how our actions may affect other people -- perception is reality.

Anytime someone feels uncomfortable with a situation, the best solution is often to discuss it with the parties involved or with someone you trust to determine if there is a problem.

There are also cultural differences that can come into play when evaluating whether a relationship is unprofessional. For instance, in some cultures, any physical contact between members of different sexes is seen as inappropriate.

Unprofessional relationships, whether they are pursued on duty or off duty, are those relationships which detract from the authority of superiors or result in, or reasonably create the appearance of, favoritism, misuse of position, or the abandonment of organizational goals in favor of personal interests.

This can include actions that create a hostile environment with the appearance of impropriety.

Unprofessional relationships can exist between officers, between enlisted members, between officers and enlisted members, or between military personnel and civilian employees or contractor personnel.

Fraternization is a more specific type of unprofessional relationship.

It is defined as a personal relationship between an officer and an enlisted member which violates the customary bounds of acceptable behavior in the Air Force and prejudices good order and discipline, discredits the armed services, or operates to the personal disgrace or dishonor of the officer involved.

Fraternization is specifically prohibited by AFI 36-2909 and by Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Some specific prohibitions include officers gambling with enlisted members, lending or borrowing money from enlisted members, engaging in sexual relationships or dating enlisted members, sharing living accommodations with enlisted members, or going into business with enlisted members.

When faced with a situation involving unprofessional relationships or one that is causing a degradation of morale, good order, discipline, or unit cohesion, action should be taken to correct the situation.

Depending on the circumstances, addressing the situation directly with the parties involved may be appropriate.

The situation can also be addressed with the supervisor, first sergeant or commander, so corrective action can be taken.

Our people are our greatest asset. Unprofessional relationships can impact the morale of work centers and families.

Let's keep Lajes a tight-knit community by being considerate of our actions.



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# COMMENTARY

## Air Force Medical Service and healthcare evolves

**By Col. Denise Lew**  
**65th Medical Group commander**

Reflecting on the stories from Air Force medics who deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and to the Hurricane Katrina disaster, it's clearly evident the Air Force Medical Service mission and objectives have evolved over my 20-year career.

I think back to my first assignment at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and recall that at the time we were operating 843 beds and our mobility mission was to staff a 1,000-bed contingency hospital pre-positioned at Little Rissington, United Kingdom.

Now, Wilford Hall operates fewer than 200 beds. The mobility requirements for most personnel at Wilford Hall as well as other Air Force Military Treatment Facilities, is to deploy in modular segments of an Expeditionary Medical Support team or supporting elements such as Critical Care Air Transport Teams, which are designed to expeditiously transport critically ill/injured patients via aeromedical evacuation to comprehensive care.

In the case of Katrina support, an Air Force EMEDS team arrived and set up operations at New Orleans International Airport on Sept. 1, following the Louisiana governor's request for federal assistance Aug. 31.

They, along with Federal Emergency Management Agency and other government personnel, triaged and evacuated the majority of the patients (about 2,500) from Sept. 1-5.

This was a clear demonstration of the value of our expeditionary medical platform — rapid deployment, modularity and expeditious patient movement out of the theater of operations.

Instead of utilizing large 500 to 1,500-bed hospitals, or the Air Transportable Hospitals that took six C-141s to transport into a theater of operations, the AFMS now depends on deploying EMEDS, which start with a basic Small Portable Expeditionary Aeromedical Rapid Response team that can deploy on a single aircraft, handle 0-2000 Population at-Risk and be operational within six to 12 hours.

This EMEDS can then expand to handle up to 5,000 PAR.

The EMEDS then becomes the basis of the Air Force theater hospital, whose size and specialties depend on the requirements of the theater of operations.

The focus for our deployed facilities is to provide necessary surgical and medical care to save lives, stabilize,

maintain health, and to return our Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, and Marines to duty as soon as possible, or to transport them out of the theater if they will not be returned to duty.

With the rapid movement of patients out of the theater, we have been able to reduce our fielded medical footprint.

The AFMS started in 1949 with about 75 small base-level facilities obtained from the Army. It reached its historic peak of 134 hospitals and 128 clinics and dispensaries back in 1953, following the construction of large medical centers at places such as Elmendorf, Wright-Patterson, Travis, and Andrews Air Force Bases.

Back in those days, the military "took care of its own" because the government did not authorize military beneficiaries to spend Department of Defense dollars on civilian health care. However, downsizing began as early as the 1960s, and Congress gave the military the authority to purchase civilian care for retirees and dependents.

Continued expansion in the use of civilian sources for care, the changes in the delivery of care from inpatient to outpatient-focused, inflationary healthcare costs, and military force shaping all provided increased impetus toward reducing the size of the military healthcare system.

Today, the AFMS operates a number of facilities approximately equal to when it started back in 1949 with about 78 facilities, of which only 18 are now bedded facilities.

These bedded facilities (medical centers and hospitals) are where our AFMS medical training programs are located, including our physician specialty residency programs, nursing and other specialty internships, Phase II training programs for our enlisted specialties, etc.

Facilities without teaching programs and located where civilian health care resources support the military beneficiary population have been transformed into outpatient clinics and primarily focused on providing primary care and military-unique medical requirements such as flight medicine, bioenvironmental engineering, public health and readiness support.

One of the most important reasons for not having more specialty care services available at our smaller facilities is based on maintaining clinical competencies for wartime requirements: our medics need to be adequately prepared to perform in their primary specialty areas when they deploy. Therefore, in the peacetime environment, they need to be seeing as

many patients as possible, performing surgeries, procedures, and other medical support activities just as they would at a deployed location.

For small populations of military beneficiaries, the volume of cases are generally not sufficient to maintain their clinical skills.

These specialists must be assigned to locations with a large population base that would generate an adequate caseload.

What does this mean to us here at Lajes Field?

It explains why we no longer have a robust hospital with surgical capability on our base.

It means our mission is basically that of a maintenance crew — we keep people healthy so they can optimally perform their duties, and we determine when more definitive care is necessary. When more complex care is required, we arrange for the care with local civilian health care resources or secure services at a referral facility in Europe or the United States.

We maintain and stabilize, and leave the more complex care to the specialty-trained professionals.

Just as with the majority of Air Force bases worldwide, our on-base medical capability is limited to minimize our non-war-time-associated infrastructure, and the military health care benefit is provided through an integrated system of military and civilian health care resources.

While organic military medicine resources have been reduced, our military beneficiaries continue to enjoy having access to world-class health care, and one of the least expensive health plans available to any American citizen. No other health plan in the world provides the unique benefit of minimal co-pays, an annual catastrophic cap, worldwide aeromedical evacuation and a virtually unlimited pharmacy benefit.

Our AFMS has definitely evolved into being more wartime focused, and we support this through our wartime readiness capability, our training requirements, and keeping our active duty members as healthy and deployment-ready as possible. It's important to us, as well, that we keep family members healthy, because the wellness of the family impacts the ability for the active duty member to focus on his/her primary mission. This wartime focus distinguishes Air Force medics from our civilian counterparts, and reminds us of why we proudly wear the uniform — and why we call ourselves, "Combat Medics!"



## Force shaping board meeting in 2006

By Master Sgt.  
Mitch Gettle  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — A force shaping board will convene in 2006 and continue to meet annually to properly shape the officer corps to meet emerging Air Force needs.

Instituted by the Air Force, the board will be a regular aspect of force management and development in the future.

Authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force, the board convenes at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base in April.

Force shaping efforts started in 2004 and evolved in an effort to meet congressionally mandated fiscal year end strength requirements and maintain a balanced force.

"The force shaping board is

another aspect of our force management and development," said Brig. Gen. Glenn F. Spears, Air Force director of force management policy. "We must have a balanced force of officers and enlisted Airmen to meet the missions of today and tomorrow."

The Air Force began fiscal year 2006 with a force imbalance. It was under strength by approximately 6,000 enlisted and over strength by approximately 3,000 officers.

A current excess of nearly 4,000 officers — primarily from the 2000 to 2004 commissioning years — make worse the imbalance and has a long-range impact on the effective development of the officer corps and the ability to access sustainable numbers of enlisted Airmen. Despite an aggressive voluntary force

shaping campaign, the Air Force has not achieved the balance of officer to enlisted Airmen through existing voluntary means.

Congress recently gave each service secretary increased authority to proactively manage their junior officer corps through force shaping efforts.

"The Air Force values the service and sacrifice of all Airmen who volunteer to serve, and separating officers is a difficult decision that we do not take lightly," General Spears said. "This first force shaping process will 'select-in' approximately 7,800 line officers commissioned in 2002 and 2003 to continue to serve in our active Air Force."

Eligible officers may continue to apply for voluntary separation until March 1,

2006 using the force shaping initiatives already approved.

Subsequent boards will consider officers commissioned three years earlier. For example, the 2007 board will evaluate officers commissioned in 2004.

"We value the service of all our Airmen," General Spears said. "Voluntary force shaping initiatives, and the force shaping board, are key aspects of our force management and development."

"Our Airmen have many opportunities to serve — in the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard, as Air Force civilians or in the Army," the general said. "We encourage Airmen in the affected year groups to pursue those opportunities to continue service to our great nation."

### Everyday Hero

#### Tech. Sgt. Raymond McLaughlin

**Rank/Name:** Tech. Sgt. Ray McLaughlin

**Organization:** 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron

**Duty title:** Resource Control Center and Support NCOIC

**Job description:** Coordinate fuel requirements with Maintenance Operations Control, initiate emergency response actions, ensure training needs met and administer budget/directs purchases

**Hometown:** Fayetteville, N.C.

**Time in the Air Force:** 12 years

**Spouse/children:** Wife Nicki, and daughters Madison and Cameron.

**What's the best aspect of your job?** Being able to travel all over the world

**What are your career goals?** Serve my country to the best of my abilities

**Best military experience:** I was able to be a part of a seven-person team to stand up POL at a forward operating base in Iraq

**Life goal:** Live long and to be happy

**One word to describe you:** Energetic

**Hobbies:** Hunting, fishing and golf

**Favorite food(s):** Anything Mexican.

**Favorite color:** Silver/Grey

**Pet peeve:** Tardiness

**No one knows:** I enjoy cooking

**When I was growing up, I wanted to be:** An army paratrooper

**The first thing I would do if I won \$1,000,000 is:** Pay off all my bills and take a long vacation



Photo by Airman 1st Class Tabitha Larson

## *TORC reopens its doors with ceremony, brunch*

**By Capt. Melissa Waheibi  
65th ABW Public Affairs**

**T**he Top of the Rock Club dining room officially reopens its doors Sunday with a ceremony and a brunch at 11 a.m.

"They are going to do a great job," said Kevin Gontarek, TORC complex manager. "The brunch is going to be fantastic!"

"The opening this Sunday will be important for everyone," he added.

The dining room closed its doors Oct. 1 as a services operation and will reopen Sunday as a contract operation under the new management of O Pescador.

The new name of the dining room will be presented at the opening ceremony.

"We are very excited to be here," said Michel Meneses, TORC general manager.

Meneses was born in Quebec and lived in Canada through age 18. He's been working at O Pescador for 25 years.

"The TORC can only be a successful club by having the best service and prices to the American community, its members and guests," Sr. Meneses added.

"They will do exceptionally well," said

Lt. Col. John Oliver, 65th Services Squadron commander.

"I've already been impressed by the quality of personnel they have at all levels of their staff," he said. "Their strong reputation in the community with both the Portuguese and U.S. patrons should make their transition on base rather smooth. Finally, like us, their top priority is customer satisfaction. They understand that satisfied customers will become long-term customers."

Although the management of O Pescador is heading up this team, this will not be O Pescadors, said the colonel.

"It's a whole new operation," said Mr. Gontarek. "But it's still going to have American food -- still fried chicken on Monday and Mexican Tuesday."

There will also be new items on the menu. In addition to chicken tenders and mozzarella sticks as an appetizer, the club will offer shrimp cocktail and codfish tortilla. Salmon and steak will continue to be a menu item, and now swordfish and alcatra are added.

A variety of fresh desserts will be a highlight according to Sr. Meneses.

The club underwent an organizational realignment this summer to eliminate fi-

nancial losses in their food operations

After evaluating his options, the 65th Air Base Wing Commander, Col. Robert Winston, determined that contracting out the club food operation was the best way to achieve the objective of eliminating the losses while maintaining service to club members and the base community.

Several companies from Terceira showed interest in TORC operations. Business plans, financial analysis, past performance, food preparation, and taste testing were some of the main factors which were submitted and scrutinized. O Pescador came out the winner.

"I'm excited about partnering with our dining room contractor to offer first-rate service and increased dining options for the Lajes community," said Colonel Oliver. "I'm confident the new Sunday Brunch will be a huge hit as well as the wide selection of desserts that'll be made on site and offered daily."

"Our intent is to emphasize that our primary customers are club members and 65th Air Base Wing and Air Base 4 employees and their families," he said.

"We're working closely with the new contractor and are in agreement that we're one team with the same mission."



## **Clean beaches**

*(From left to right) Capt. Leilani Bush, Capt. Philip Wang and 1st Lt. Jennifer Shirley, all from 65th Medical Support Squadron, pitch in helping hands during a Company Grade Officer Council-sponsored beach cleanup of the Caldeira shoreline recently. CGO's removed several hundred pounds of trash during the "Combat Proud" effort.*



## Good to Know

### LADD change

The Lajes Against Drunk Driving phone number has changed to 964-955-992. Anyone who has had too much to drink can call this number for a safe ride home.

### EQUAL list available

The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for Airmen returning from overseas and continental United States mandatory movers for February to April 2006 is now available.

Airmen need to work through their commander's support staff to update their preferences by Oct. 27. Deployed Airmen or those on temporary duty assignments can contact the nearest personnel office for assistance.

Airmen will be notified of their selection by Nov. 15.

## Holiday mail deadlines approaching

By Staff Sgt. Christin Michaud  
65th ABW Public Affairs

The dates for mailing items back to the states for the holidays are fast approaching, according to Tech. Sgt. Stacy Servillon, 65th Communications Squadron postmaster.

The closer it gets to the holidays, the higher the volume of mail, which can cause longer delivery times.

"In order for your cards and packages to make it by Dec. 25, it is suggested that you send your mail by the following dates," said Sergeant Servillon:

— Space-available mail: Nov. 26.

— Priority and first-class letters/cards: Dec. 10

Express mail military service is not available at this location, according to Sergeant Servillon. "I encourage people to mail off their packages as soon as possible," he said. "The sooner they do, the cheaper it will be because they can send them space available."

Anyone shipping a package to the United States needs to fill out a green

customs form at the post office.

Another point Sergeant Servillon made is for people to make sure boxes are packed well. "The perfect box is one with no air in it," he said.

Air Mobility Command transports the mail to Lajes Field. Boxes are stacked on top of each other to make the most efficient use of space. "The stronger the box, the better," the postmaster said.

Packages arrive on the island, primarily on Mondays and Thursdays. People who order packages are urged to pick up their packages as soon as they arrive instead of using the post office as storage until Christmas to allow room for incoming packages.

These dates can be used as a ball-park for the length of time it will take packages to get from the states to Lajes Field.

The post office hours to mail items are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Customers may pick up packages on those days until 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, call 2-3625.

## And the winner is ...

*Squadron commanders hosed their way to victory during a spray-the-bucket competition. (Photo by Guido Melo)*





# FEATURE

## Combat Weather does more than predict sunshine and rain

By Staff Sgt.  
Christin Michaud  
65th ABW Public Affairs

Anyone who tunes into Island 96.1 FM, can hear the weather forecast for Lajes Field. The typical weather on the island is sunny and warm in the summer, while winter brings wind and rain for residents of Terceira.

The specifics of each forecast come from the weather flight here, but making sure Lajes residents know whether to grab their umbrellas is just a small fraction of their mission.

The 65th Operations Support Squadron combat weather team provides weather support for all transiting aircraft that come through Lajes Field.

One captain, two NCOs and five civilians make up the combat weather team, a 24-hour operation.

"Shift work is a fact of life with weather," said Capt. Brad Stebbins, flight commander and meteorologist.

Shift worker, João Alves, has been a weather forecaster here for 18 years.

"It can be very busy, and occasionally quite slow," he said. "Sometimes in the winter there's no time for a bite."

That is because a maritime environment is quite different from inland continental environment, explained Master Sgt. Dan Powell, Combat Weather Team NCOIC, who has been forecasting weather for more the 20 years.

"At Lajes, the primary concern is high winds," he said. "The high wind speeds can wreak havoc across the base and the local community."

Because Lajes is known for its bad weather, predicting it right allows missions to reach their goals, said Sr. Alves.

Lajes Field is the crossroads of the Atlantic and a primary stopping point for many Department of Defense aircraft.

"If the winds cross the runway at too much of an angle, strong crosswinds can limit flying operations, Sergeant Powell said. "Different airframes have their own respective crosswind limitations. Additionally, severe turbulence can occur with strong winds."

"So much depends on a forecast for planning purposes," said Sr. Alves, including the transient aircraft that come through Lajes Field. "Many decisions will be made based on my predictions/forecasts, in war and peace time."

The Combat Weather Team plays an integral role in helping air expeditionary forces. "Pilots can't fly without knowing the weather," said Sergeant Powell. "We enable the warfighters to continue the mission downrange and then return home safely to their families."

The team did this last week when the 74th Fighter Squadron was returning to Pope Air Force Base, N.C., from a five-

month deployment in South-west Asia with Coronet East, one of 40 Coronet Missions here this year.

A Coronet Mission is where refueling tankers like the KC-135 and the KC-10 escort fighters. In this case, Coronet East, the fighter drag is across the Atlantic — moving the iron to the fight, according to Captain Stebbins.

While returning from the fight, the 74th FS encountered weather problems and were in transit for more than 25 days.

"It took them nearly a month to return from a five-month deployment," said Captain Stebbins. "This is after numerous weather delays and flying through the remnants of Hurricane Vince. The 74th were held a few days at Sigonella by thunderstorms; grounded at Lajes due to poor landing weather in the Northeast US; and even diverted to Maine because of strong winds at their flight level."

Part of the mission for the weather team here is to provide the best mission weather support from Lajes, en route, and at the destination, said Sergeant Powell.

Pilots are briefed here before departure, but our forecasters stay with them through their flight across the Atlantic.

"The 65th OSS gets it — they know what it takes to move our pilots to and from the fight," said Maj Benjamin Hines, Air Combat Command Air Operations Squadron Delivery Control Officer in charge of Coronet East 119 Leg 2. "Every other OSS needs to come here and learn how it is done."

The forecasters face challenges with the unique weather here, but enjoy the highlights of working at Lajes.

"A weather person is dealing most times with an invisible fluid (the atmosphere)," said Sr. Alves. But that doesn't stop him from predicting weather 24-hours in advance up to the minute.

For Captain Stebbins, the highlight is the opportunity he has to work side-by-side with his Portuguese counterparts. "We use their observation, they use our equipment," he said. "We couldn't do our job without them." In addition to learning more Portuguese, Captain Stebbins enjoys how family-oriented his counterparts are and the chance he has to have a joint Christmas party. "It's been very rewarding."

Sergeant Powell has forecasted all over the northern hemisphere. "Every new place I go I find a new and unique type of weather that challenges me in that region," he said. "Accurately forecasting Lajes weather will continue to be an exciting challenge."



*Capt. Brad Stebbins, meteorologist, routinely briefs aircrews on weather affecting their route of flight as part of the primary mission for the Combat Weather Team. He explains to pilots what weather hazards the cold front he is pointing to would bring -- upper level icing, turbulence, or low clouds. It helps pilots better visualize and mentally overlay their route of flight and possibly plan a change or discount a divert base. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Josie Kemp)*



*Carlos Rocha is analyzing meteorological satellite imagery on the Mark IV-B station. This is one of best tools for forecasting here at Lajes. In the United States, forecasters access weather stations that report the upstream weather. The closest upstream station to the Azores is more than a thousand miles away. (Photo by Guido Melo)*



*Master Sgt. Dan Powell, Combat Weather Team NCOIC, briefs pilots from the 74th Fighter Squadron last week as part of a Coronet Mission. (Photo by Master Sgt. Michael Featherston)*

## Cell phones, fog lights sometimes illegal

### Fog Lights

**Question:** Is it true that it's illegal to use fogs lights in Portugal?

**Answer:** The use of fog lights in the front and rear of a vehicle is only authorized when it's foggy and visibility is diminished.

As a matter of fact, according to article 61 of the Portuguese Traffic Road Code, drivers must turn on the fog light in the rear of their vehicles when visibility is reduced due to intense fog conditions so that other drivers can notice the presence of the vehicles in front of them. It should only be used under these conditions.

The use of fog lights in the front is

not mandatory and is only intended to help increase the driver's visibility during situations of intense fog.

Violators of these rules will be charged with fines that may range from 30 to 150 euros.

### Cell phones

**Question:** Is it also illegal to use a cell phone while driving here?

**Answer:** According to article 84 of the Portuguese Traffic Road Code, it's strictly prohibited to use a cell phone while driving a motor vehicle. If you need to receive or place a call on a cell phone while driving you need to pull over the side of the road, come to a

complete stop and then receive or place the call.

However, the use of a free-hands kit (microphone and ear-phone) is authorized while driving.

Violators will be charged with fines that may range from 120 to 600 euros.



## More than a half a century of work keeps Lajes' veteran young

By Ed Lima  
65th ABW Public Affairs

Life hasn't always been easy for Senhor Manuel Simão Medeiros, a native of Manadas on the Island of São Jorge, but this 81 year-old man continues to work because he likes to stay busy.

Sr. Medeiros doesn't remember exactly when he came to Terceira Island. The attraction Lajes Field exerted on him as well as on hundreds of other Azoreans from different islands, made him migrate to Terceira looking for a better life.

"Life was rough on my native island at that time, so I decided to move to Terceira and find a better job at the base," Sr. Medeiros said.

When he arrived to Terceira in his early 20s, he first worked for a U.S. construction company that was building some of the base's early structures. After that first work experience at Lajes, he then moved to the base's motor pool where he worked for 14 years as a car washer.

Sr. Medeiros also worked at the Base Exchange's warehouse for a short period of time before he moved to the 65th Civil Engineer Squadron where he retired at the age of 65 after working 29 years as a garbage collector.

After Sr. Medeiros retired from the base he found a job at the base as a gardener, something he's always enjoyed doing. First he was helping his sons who are also gardeners in base housing and then he started working for a contractor.

Teresa Cordle, Catering Manager for the Top of the Rock Club, has known Sr. Medeiros for some years now. "I know him from when he was working the gardens around the club. I love him because he's such a sweet, hard working and respectful person. We would feed him with a hot meal and give him small change for his cigarettes the two days he worked here," Ms. Cordle said.

Currently Sr. Medeiros works two days a week for a local contractor performing gardening duties around the base. When he is not working at the base he stays busy around his house in Serra de São Tiago. "I always find something to do around the house because I like to work and stay busy. It keeps me fit. That's the reason I'm still working after being retired," Sr. Medeiros said.

Sr. Medeiros is married to Senhora Rosa. They have five children and eight grandchildren.



*Manuel Simão Medeiros, has been working at Lajes Field as a base employee or contractor for more than 50 years.*



*Sr. Medeiros, 81, works as a gardener on base with a local contractor, even though he retired at 65 because it helps keep him fit. (Photos by Ed Lima)*

## Vice commander stresses important trick-or-treat info

By 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Michael Hyland  
65th ABW Public Affairs

Air Force leadership around the globe makes every attempt to bring a taste of home to all Airmen and their families stationed overseas on Oct. 31.

Lajes takes special concern with dependent children, knowing it can be very hard on them living outside of the United States. That's why the base holds several youth recreation activities, including a children's Halloween trick-or-treat every year. The base vice commander offers some valuable information for parents and children to make sure this year's trick-or-treat is a safe and fun one.

Col. Danny Leonard, 65 Air Base Wing vice commander, said Halloween is an opportunity for Lajes to give the children here a taste of home.

"Halloween is a custom our children enjoy in the states, and it's evolved into an opportunity here for kids to dress up, have fun and get some candy," he said. "We try to give the children some home flavor while they're overseas."

While Halloween can be a great opportunity to dress up and have fun, the colonel stressed safety as a primary thought during the trick-or-treat outing.

"We have to keep the safety of our children in mind," he said. "It can get very crowded in base housing, so parents must be responsible for escorting small children. Our Security Forces Squadron will be restricting vehicular traffic, but younger kids can get lost in large crowds."

"We are asking housing residents to not drive their cars during trick-or-treat hours, except for urgent needs," he said.

For older children, Colonel Leonard recommends parents give their children specific directions on where to go and what time to come home during the 6 – 7:30 p.m. trick-or-treat period Oct. 31.

"Before sending their kids out, parents need to tell them where to go; whether the children need to stay within one of the housing areas or go in-between. We'll have security patrols throughout both areas, but parents need to know where their children

are."

Parents should advise their children to be cautious when accepting candy. Kids should always take candy home for parents to look at before eating it, Colonel Leonard advises.

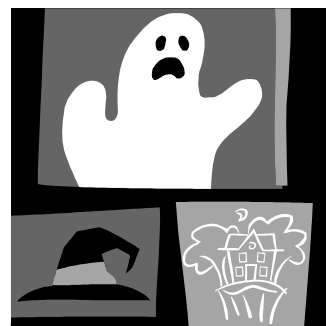
The Lajes Halloween trick-or-treat is for children. Colonel Leonard said costumes should not restrict vision and, if possible, should be reflective so the child is visible to pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

At Lajes, Halloween presents an opportunity for the U.S. military to open up the base and celebrate the American custom with our Portuguese neighbors.

"Americans have been here almost 60 years, and over time, our Portuguese neighbors have adopted our trick-or-treat customs," Colonel Leonard said.

"Halloween is one of the few opportunities we have to open the base and let our neighbors enjoy this American custom. We get to enjoy many Portuguese and Azorean customs, so this is a chance for the Americans to extend one of ours.

"This helps bring us closer to our Azorean host."



### Halloween Activities

✦ Kids  
Halloween  
Costume night  
5 to 7 p.m. Oct.

29, for ages 5-12. Cost will be \$1 per game per child. Shoe rental is free. Karaoke will be available.

✦ Halloween Costume Night midnight bowl will be 8 to 10 p.m. Oct. 29 for adults and teens. With costume, cost for an adult is \$1.50, for teens \$1 for age 13-17. Shoes will be \$.50. Without costume, normal fees will apply. For more information, call Luci Lima at 2-6169.

✦ The chapel will host Harvest Fest, an alternative to Halloween at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 29. For more information, call 2-4211.



## Not horsing around

*Unna Clancey placed third in a competition last weekend at a horse fair in Angra.*

*Unna is actively involved at the stables with her lessons and teaches as well. She also volunteers with Hipo therapy riding for handicap children. (Courtesy photo)*



## Group Fitness Class schedule

### Monday

8:30 a.m. -- Step with Celia  
Noon -- Spin with Tina  
4:15 p.m. -- Cardio Mix with Manuela  
5:15 p.m. -- Aero Kombat with Celia  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Celia

### Tuesday

6 a.m. -- Spin with Dawn  
8:30 a.m. -- Circuit Training with Celia  
5:15 p.m. -- Circuit Training with Rui  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Rui

### Wednesday

8:30 a.m. -- Step with Celia  
Noon -- Spin with Tina  
4:15 p.m. -- Cardio Mix with Manuela

5:15 p.m. -- Step with Manuela  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Georgina

### Thursday

6 a.m. -- Spin with Dawn  
8:30 a.m. -- Circuit Training with Celia  
5:15 p.m. -- Body Sculpting with Manuela  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Manuela

### Friday

8:30 a.m. -- Spin with Celia  
Noon -- Spin with Tina  
4:15 p.m. -- Cardio Mix with Manuela  
5:15 p.m. -- Step with Celia  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Celia

### Saturday

10 a.m. -- Spin with Celia  
11 a.m. -- Circuit Training/Stretching with Rui

## Intramural Sports Standings

### Ladies Volleyball

AMS	2-0
MED GP	2-0
CES	2-0
HS	1-2
COMM	0-3
SFS	0-2



*Ladies volleyball is Mondays beginning at 6 p.m. in the Portuguese Gym.*

## ARMCHAIR QUARTERBACK CHALLENGE

Each week during football season, the Crossroads publishes a list of the National Football League games of the week for Team Lajes to predict. The person with the most correct picks will win free movie passes (admit two), \$3 off any Burger King purchase and a "rent-one-get-one free" at the Shoppette donated by AAFES.

The number one-ranked Armchair Q.B. each week will get his or her name and photo published in the Crossroads and we'll also print any smack talk the winner chooses to submit. Congratulations to week six's winner, **Deborah Corder** who didn't miss any of Sunday's games. Way to go Deborah. That's the first time this season. Who wants to try to beat that? Now for the losers -- they get the honor of the "You Don't Know Jack" award. This week's loser was Ron Trembath, who missed eight. It wouldn't have been so bad if he lost gracefully, but he tried to recall his picks Monday morning after he realized how bad his choices were. I guess we can't blame the guy for trying.

Bring picks to the Public Affairs office in room 240 of Bldg. T-100 or e-mail them to [lajesnews@lajes.af.mil](mailto:lajesnews@lajes.af.mil). All entries must be submitted before the opening kickoff to the first game Sunday. In the case of a tie, a winner will be decided by who picks the closest combined score of the Monday Night game.

*"Wow -- less than a month on the island and I already smoked everyone in the competition! Ya'll can expect me to win several more times this season."*

-Deborah Corder



<input type="checkbox"/>	Detroit Lions vs. Cleveland Browns	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Indianapolis Colts vs. Houston Texans	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Orleans Saints vs. St. Louis Rams	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Chargers vs. Philadelphia Eagles	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Green Bay Packers vs. Minnesota Vikings	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kansas City Chiefs vs. Miami Dolphins	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pittsburgh Steelers vs. Cincinnati Bengals	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	San Francisco 49ers vs. Washington Redskins	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dallas Cowboys vs. Seattle Seahawks	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buffalo Bills vs. Oakland Raiders	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tennessee Titans vs. Arizona Cardinals	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Baltimore Ravens vs. Chicago Bears	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Denver Broncos vs. New York Giants	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	New York Jets vs. Atlanta Falcons	<input type="checkbox"/>

Total Points for Monday's Game: \_\_\_\_\_



# PLANNER

## Meal time

**Burger King:** 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun.-Thu.; 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat.

**Frank's Franks:** 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Tues.-Sat.

**Oceanview Grill:** Mon.-Sun. 11a.m. to 11 p.m.

Weekly Specials include fries or salad & drink: Mon., roasted chicken or meatball sandwich; Tue., 16" 2-topping pizza; Wed., fried shrimp; Thu., 16" 1-topping pizza or taco salad; Fri., lasagna. Pizza specials only come with drinks.

**Subway:** 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sat.; noon-6 p.m. Sun.

**Top of the Rock Club:** Lunch 11 to 1:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; Dinner Tue.-Sat. 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Breakfast 8 to noon Sat.; Sunday Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Bits and Bites in the lounge and club member specials, Tue.-Wed. 4 to 10:30 p.m., Thu. and Sat. 4

p.m. to 1:30 a.m., Fri. 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.

## Chapel

**Daily Mass:** 11:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday

**Monday** Protestant women's spiritual fitness training, 7 p.m.

**Tuesday** AWANA 6 p.m.

**Wednesday** Women's bible study, 9:30 a.m. and noon; men's spiritual fitness training/lunch, noon; Catholic choir practice 5 p.m.; traditional choir practice 6 p.m.; hand bell choir practice 7 p.m.; men's bible study, 7 p.m.

**Thursday** Gospel choir practice 7 p.m.

**Sunday** Celebration of Holy Communion 8:30 a.m.; Protestant traditional service 9 a.m.; Confessions, Sunday at 9:30 a.m. or by appointment. Catholic Mass 10:30 a.m.;

Gospel service, noon; Protestant teens/youth 6 p.m.

## Base services

**Barber shop:** 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sat., 2-3396

**Beauty shop:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-Sat., 2-4124

**Child development center:** 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 2-3188

**Community activities center:** 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tue.-Sat.; noon-5 p.m. Sun., 2-4135

**Commissary:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Wed., Fri., Sat.; 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Thu., 2-6174

**Chace Fitness Center:** 5 a.m.-midnight Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat., Sun., 2-5151

**Dry cleaners:** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-Fri.; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.

**Flight View BX:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thu.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. & Portuguese holidays

**Gas station:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun., Mon. (gas only); 10

a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-Sat., 2-5125

**Library:** 4-9 p.m. Mon.; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Tue.-Thu.; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri.; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., Sun., 2-3688

**New Car Sales:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue.-Wed.; noon-8 p.m. Thu.-Sat., 2-3173

**Ocean Front BX:** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thu.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun., 2-3444

**Outdoor recreation:** 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tue.-Sat.; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sun., 2-4140

**PFCU:** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Thu.; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Fri., 295-543-681

**Shoppette:** 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sun., 2-3280

**Skills development center:** noon-8 p.m. Tue.-Thu.; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri., Sat., 2-5255 or 295-575-255

**Thrift shop:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mon., Wed. and Fri. and the 3rd Sat. of the month. 2-3567 or 295-573-567

**Vet clinic:** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 1-7 p.m. 1st, 3rd Wed., 2-3134 or 295-573-134

## AFN Sports

[myafn.net](http://myafn.net)

### Friday

**AFN-Atlantic**

NHL: Anaheim Mighty Ducks @ Detroit Red Wings, 11:30 p.m.

### Saturday

**AFN-Sports**

COLL FB: Michigan @ Iowa, 4 p.m.

COLL FB: Texas Tech @ Texas, 7:30 p.m.

MLB: 2005 World Series Game 1: Houston Astros/St. Louis Cardinals @ Chicago White Sox, 11:30 p.m.

**AFN-Atlantic**

COLL FB: Ohio State @ Indiana, 4 p.m.

COLL FB: Tennessee @ Alabama, 7:30 p.m.

**AFN-Pacific**

COLL FB: Nebraska @ Missouri, 4 p.m.

NASCAR Busch Series: Sam's Town 250 Memphis Motorsports Park, 7:30 p.m.

### Sunday

**AFN-Atlantic**

MLB: 2005 World Series Game 1: Houston Astros/St. Louis Cardinals @ Chicago White Sox, 11:30 p.m. (Tape Delayed)

COLL FB: Oregon State @ UCLA, 11 a.m.

NASCAR Nextel Cup Series: Subway 500, Martinsville Speedway, Va., 5 p.m.

NFL: Baltimore Ravens @ Chicago Bears, 8:30 p.m.

**AFN-Pacific**

NFL: San Diego Chargers @ Philadelphia Eagles, 5 p.m.

NFL: Dallas Cowboys @ Seattle Seahawks, 8 p.m.

**AFN-Sports**

NFL: Pittsburgh Steelers @ Cincinnati Bengals, 5 p.m.

NFL: Denver Broncos @ NY Giants, 8 p.m.



**Today: 7 p.m., "March of the Penguins,"** rated G.

Emperor penguins overcome daunting obstacles in order to return to their breeding grounds for mating season. This tells the story of one year in the life of a flock — focusing on one couple in particular — as they trek across the Antarctic on an annual journey that invokes just about every major life experience: from birth to death, from dating to mating, from comedy to tragedy, and from love to fighting for survival.

**Saturday: 7 p.m., "40-Year Old Virgin,"** rated R.

40-year-old Andy Stitzer has done quite a few things in his life. He's got a cushy job stamping invoices at an electronics superstore, a nice apartment with a proud collection of action figures and comic books, good friends, a nice attitude. But there's

just one little thing he hasn't quite gotten around to doing yet—something most people have done by his age. Andy's never, ever, ever had sex. His friends at the store consider it their duty to help, but nothing proves effective enough until he meets Trish, a 40-year-old mother of three. Andy's friends are psyched by the possibility that "it" may finally happen .. until they hear that Andy and Trish have begun their relationship based on a mutual no-sex policy.

**Sunday: 2 p.m. "March of the Penguins,"** 7 p.m.

**"40-Year Old Virgin"**

**Wednesday: 7 p.m., "March of the Penguins"**

**Thursday: 7 p.m., "40-Year Old Virgin"**

**Note: Movies and times shown are subject to change.**



# EVENTS

Submission deadline is Thursday one week prior to publication. E-mail announcements in normal text with event, location, date, time, point of contact's full name and phone number/e-mail address to [news@lajes.af.mil](mailto:news@lajes.af.mil). For on-base numbers, dial 295-57 and the last four digits.

## Local events

**Economic fair:** The Chamber of Commerce of Angra is hosting the fair of economic activities, "Temát&ca 2005," through Nov. 20 in a tent located adjacent to the Musical Club of Angra in Vinha Brava. The fair will include a series of expositions throughout the coming weekends featuring diverse themes such as fashion, cars and tuning, tourism and leisure times, construction materials, etc.

This weekend's exposition theme is "Motor & Tuning."

The fair's expositions will be Fridays: 8 p.m. - Midnight; Saturdays: 3 p.m. - Midnight; and Sundays: 3-11 p.m. Admission is free.

## Base events

**Preteen Lock-in:** The Lajes Youth Program is sponsoring a Preteen Lock-in tonight from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. The cost is \$15.75 for members and \$23.75 for non-members. The fee includes dinner and breakfast as well as bowling and skating. To sign up call 2-1197.

**Pumpkin Carving Contest:** The base library will host a pumpkin carving contest at 3:30 p.m. Thursday. Judging will begin at 4 p.m. Prizes will be awarded in youth and adult categories for scariest, silliest and most creative. Register at the library by today.

For more information call Barbara Biljan at 2-3688.

## Education center

**Oklahoma University classes:** The Masters of Human Relations degree program with University of Oklahoma is a 36 credit hour, non-thesis degree that can be completed within 16-24 months.

The next course being offered for the fall is HR 5462-226, "Counseling Skills in Human Relations," an elective course toward a Master's degree in Human Relations degree. The course dates are Dec. 13-18. The last day to add/drop will be Oct. 31. For more in-

formation, call Jaclyn Kemp at 2-3171.

**Central Texas College:** The Legal Assistant/Paralegal program is coming to Lajes. Central Texas College will begin offering the Legal Assistant/Paralegal program in Term 2, beginning with LGLA 1307 Introduction to Law and the Legal Profession. Term 2 registration ends today. For more information, please contact Kimberly Henne at 295-576-722/2-6722 or stop by the CTC office in Bldg. T-400.

The CTC office is open Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University:** Embry-Riddle is holding registration for the next on-site course, SFTY 345, through today. For more information, contact Terra Schellig at 295-573-375.

**Scholarship Opportunity:** The Lajes Enlisted Spouses' Club is proud to announce that they will be awarding \$2000 in scholarships to spouses of enlisted service members.

Applicants must have enrolled in at least one full term during the 2005 academic year. Applicants must have maintained a 2.5 GPA or higher. Online courses will be accepted. Applications may be picked up at any of the college offices or at the family support center, and must be submitted by Nov. 18. For more information contact Jamie Thorn at 295-515-145.

## Volunteer/jobs

**AAFES nail technician:** AAFES is looking for a qualified nail technician to professionally perform manicures and pedicures as well as acrylic nail sets. Applicants must be willing to work flexible hours Tuesday-Saturday.

Anyone interested can call Lucile at the Beauty Shop at 2-4124.

**Services vacancies:** The 65th Services Squadron has a vacancy for a child development program assistant. The closing date is Wednesday. To apply for this position, visit the 65th SVS Human Resources

Office in Bldg. T-112 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call the HRO staff at 295-575-200 or 2-5200.

**Post Office volunteers:** The Post Office is in need of volunteers. The busiest days are Monday, Thursday and Saturday. Volunteering at the Post Office is a valid alternate duty location with supervisor's position. For more information

## Miscellaneous

tion call 2-3625.

**Youth Employment Skills Program:** A volunteer and earn, money for college. The YES Program offers high school aged dependents of Active Duty Air Force members an opportunity "bank" volunteer dollar credits toward their post-secondary education/training at a rate of \$4 per hour volunteered in an on-base position.

This program is being offered as an opportunity to learn valuable work skills while having a positive impact on their base communities.

The program funded by the Air Force Aid Society and jointly administered by AFSA and Air Force Family Member Programs Flight.

For more information, call Thomas Lamont at 2-1197.

**Youth flag football:** Flag football assessments will be 6 p.m. Monday. There will be a coaches meeting 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. Parent meetings will be Thursday, at 6 p.m. for ages 5-6, 6:30 p.m. for ages 7-8, 7 p.m. for ages 9-11 and 7:30 p.m. for ages 12 and above. For more information, call the LYP at 2-1197.

**Heartlink:** The next Heartlink is scheduled for Nov. 3. Heart Link is an orientation program for military spouses. This program offers a day full of fun while learning about the Air Force's mission, customs, traditions, protocol support services and resources. The goal is to strengthen military families and enhance mission readiness.

For more information or to sign up, call the FSC at 2-4138.

## Chapel

**October Chapel events:** For details about chapel events, call 2-4211.

**New Creation Café:** 7 p.m. today at Eddie's Place.

**Children and Youth Movie Night:** 7 p.m. today at the chapel.

**Little Flowers Girls' Club:** 3 p.m. Monday at T-1415B.

**SUM Dinner:** This month's single and unaccompanied member dinner is 5:30 p.m. Thursday at the chapel. The 65th Operations Support Squadron is the sponsor.

**Harvest Fest:** An alternative celebration for Halloween will be 5:30 p.m. Oct. 29 at the chapel.

**Christmas Cantata:** Practice is 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays. The Cantata will be a service in carols with opportunities for soloists and instrumentalists. For more information, e-mail Kathy Roden [email at roden5@earthlink.net](mailto:email@roden5@earthlink.net).

## Classifieds

*Submit ads via e-mail to [news@lajes.af.mil](mailto:news@lajes.af.mil). Ads are due by 5 p.m. Friday. Please remember to notify the Crossroads when items have been sold.*

For sale: Men's Mountain Bike - like new, used only a handful of times. Trying to reduce my pack-out inventory. \$75. Call Chris - 295-549-303.

2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo, Champagne, auto, PCSing must sell. Great family vehicle and in exc. cond. New CD player, power locks, windows, and steering!! 50K miles, brand new brakes/rotors, and nearly new tires!! Asking \$10,000, will negotiate. Call Justin or Amanda at 295-549-660 or e-mail [mandecurtis@yahoo.com](mailto:mandecurtis@yahoo.com).

For Sale: Complete Mess Dress for about a 6 foot male. Separating, once used, immaculate condition. Best Offer. Call 965-356-789

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious Nanny Available! Don't pass this one up, she cleans, does laundry and speaks great English! Trustworthy nanny whose family has just PCS'd and needs a new family to take care of. Call Tania at 965-598061. For references call (210) 771-6305.

Wanted: to trade or buy, Game Cube or X-Box games. Esp. looking for Digimon Rumble Arena 2. Call Natalia at 965-480-769.

2003 Kawasaki KLR 650cc dual sport motorcycle with > 3000 miles asking 4,000 dollars call for more information 962-074-157 any time.

For Sale: Two Dehumidifiers great condition \$60 a piece. Kids bedroom matching set of a bookcase, short dresser, and long dresser great condition \$100 all together. One tall fan \$10. One small heater \$10. For more information call 295-549-660.